REMARKS

Claims 19-32 are all the claims pending in the present application. These claims were added in the previous Amendment dated January 21, 2009. The Examiner rejects these claims as allegedly being anticipated by Sasaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,834) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

Sasaki is directed to a client-server type network having at least two clients which execute the same kind of operation. The server and the clients are improved in order to realize addition or reduction in the number of clients. When the client is started, the fact that the client in under operation is recorded in the data base of the server. Since the addition of a client is automatically recorded in the server, the addition is easily facilitated. The server is provided with a client managing device for judging whether or not the client is under operation by polling. If the client is stopped due to a problem or the like, the fact is automatically recorded in the data base of the server. *See Abstract of Sasaki.*

With respect to independent claim 19, Applicant submits that Sasaki does not disclose or suggest at least, "transmitting from the server device a predetermined signal that indicates information on at least one of a plurality of functions and operating status of the server device, to the client device," as recited in claim 19. Based on the Examiner's arguments on page 2 of the Office Action, it appears that the Examiner believes that the server 1 corresponds to the claimed client device and the client devices 3 correspond to the claimed server device. With respect to the above-quoted feature of claim 19, the Examiner cites operating state requesting means 16 of the client (Fig. 1 and col. 11, line 24-col. 13, lines 1-20 of Sasaki) as allegedly satisfying the above-quoted feature. However, based on the Examiner's rationale that the server in Sasaki corresponds to the claimed client device and the client 3 of Sasaki corresponds to the claimed server device, clearly there is no transmitting from the server device a predetermined signal that

indicates information on at least one of a plurality of functions and operating status of the server

device, to the client device. That is, the operating state requesting means of the client 3 only

requests the operating status of other devices. There is no mention that the client 3 transmits

therefrom a predetermined signal that indicates information on at least one of a plurality of

functions and operating status of itself, to a first device.

Further, with respect to claim 19, even if, *arguendo*, the server of Sasaki corresponds to

the claimed client device, clearly Sasaki does not disclose or suggest, "allowing the user to

control an operation of the server device from the client device by utilizing the received

information," as recited in claim 1. The Examiner alleges that Sasaki inherently satisfies this

feature based on the system administrator/operator 65/85 of Sasaki. However, the system

administrator/operator of Sasaki operates the client devices. See, for example, Fig. 14. Thus,

clearly Sasaki does not disclose or suggest allowing a user to control an operation of a server

device *from the client device*, as the alleged administrator/operator does not appear to operate the

server 1.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Sasaki does not anticipate claim

19.

Applicant submits that independent claims 24 and 29 are patentable at least based on

reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 19.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 20-23, 25-28, and 30-32 are patentable at least

by virtue of their respective dependencies from independent claims 19, 24, and 29.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 20, the Examiner simply makes a conclusory

statement that Sasaki satisfies claim 20. However, upon Applicant's review of Sasaki, there is

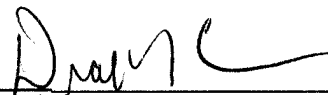no teaching or suggestion of a predetermined signal being transmitted via a HTTP protocol.

Further, with respect to dependent claims 27 and 31, the Examiner cites col. 11, line 24-col. 13, lines 1-20 of Sasaki as allegedly satisfying the features of these claims. The cited portions of Sasaki describe a second and third embodiment of the invention described therein. However, there is no teaching or suggestion of the specific features of "storing the information regarding the server device," "comparing the current information regarding the server device with pre-stored information regarding the server device," and "displaying contents of the change in the server device made based on the comparison result on the screen," as recited in claim 27 and similarly recited in claim 31. At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Sasaki does not anticipate claims 27 and 31.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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